

SHB 1879 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Human Services, Mental Health & Housing

ADOPTED 4/14/2015

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 74.09
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 The authority shall issue a request for proposals to provide
6 integrated managed health and behavioral health care for foster
7 children receiving care through the medical assistance program.
8 Behavioral health services provided under chapters 71.24, 71.34, and
9 70.96A RCW must be integrated into the managed health care plan for
10 foster children beginning October 1, 2018. The request for proposals
11 must address the program elements described in section 110, chapter
12 225, Laws of 2014, including development of a service delivery
13 system, benefit design, reimbursement mechanisms, incorporation or
14 coordination of services currently provided by the regional support
15 networks, and standards for contracting with health plans. The
16 request for proposals must be issued and completed in time for
17 services under the integrated managed care plan to begin on October
18 1, 2016.

19 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.09.490 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 15 s 23 are each
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (1) The authority, in consultation with the evidence-based
22 practice institute established in RCW 71.24.061, shall develop and
23 implement policies to improve prescribing practices for treatment of
24 emotional or behavioral disturbances in children, improve the quality
25 of children's mental health therapy through increased use of
26 evidence-based and research-based practices and reduced variation in
27 practice, improve communication and care coordination between primary
28 care and mental health providers, and prioritize care in the family
29 home or care which integrates the family where out-of-home placement
30 is required.

31 (2) The authority shall identify those children with emotional or
32 behavioral disturbances who may be at high risk due to off-label use

1 of prescription medication, use of multiple medications, high
2 medication dosage, or lack of coordination among multiple prescribing
3 providers, and establish one or more mechanisms to evaluate the
4 appropriateness of the medication these children are using, including
5 but not limited to obtaining second opinions from experts in child
6 psychiatry.

7 (3) The authority shall review the psychotropic medications of
8 all children under five and establish one or more mechanisms to
9 evaluate the appropriateness of the medication these children are
10 using, including but not limited to obtaining second opinions from
11 experts in child psychiatry.

12 (4) Within existing funds, the authority shall require a second
13 opinion review from an expert in psychiatry for all prescriptions of
14 one or more antipsychotic medications of all children under eighteen
15 years of age in the foster care system. Thirty days of a prescription
16 medication may be dispensed pending the second opinion review. The
17 second opinion feedback must include discussion of the psychosocial
18 interventions that have been or will be offered to the child and
19 caretaker if appropriate in order to address the behavioral issues
20 brought to the attention of the prescribing physician.

21 (5) The authority shall track prescriptive practices with respect
22 to psychotropic medications with the goal of reducing the use of
23 medication.

24 ~~((+5))~~ (6) The authority shall ~~((encourage—the))~~ promote the
25 appropriate use of cognitive behavioral therapies and other
26 treatments which are empirically supported or evidence-based, in
27 addition to or in the place of prescription medication where
28 appropriate and such interventions are available."

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29 On page 1, line 3 of the title, after "children;" strike the
30 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 74.09.490; and adding
31 a new section to chapter 74.09 RCW."

EFFECT: The date at which behavioral health services must be
integrated into the managed health care plan for foster children is
changed from January 1, 2018, to October 1, 2018. The start date for
other services under the managed care plan is accelerated two months

to October 1, 2016. Within existing funds, the Health Care Authority must require a second opinion review for all prescriptions of antipsychotic medications for children under 18 in the foster care system. Thirty days of medication may be dispensed pending the second opinion review.

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